



# Department of Justice

**United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian**  
**Northern District of New York**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyn>

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## NEWS RELEASE

Syracuse, New York —United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced that JOSHUA RICE, 26, of Brewerton, New York, pled guilty today before United States District Judge Hon. Glenn T. Suddaby, to enticing a 12 year old boy take sexually explicit video clips of himself with his cell phone and transmit them to RICE.

As a part of his plea agreement, filed today in federal court, RICE, a former volunteer wrestling coach in Central Square, admitted that in July, 2010, in text messaging with the 12 year old child, he continually instructed the child to take pictures and videos of his penis, enticing the child to produce and transmit such images to RICE. In exchange for the child producing the sexually explicit videos of himself and sending them to RICE, RICE via text messaging, sent to the child images of a naked female, of an undetermined age, displaying her genitals in a lewd and lascivious manner.

RICE was remanded to federal custody today pending sentence, which is scheduled for July 11, 2012 before Hon. Glenn T. Suddaby. RICE faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years, and a maximum sentence of 30 years in federal prison as a result of this conviction. In addition, he will be required to serve a term of supervised release of no less than 5 years, and up to life, and will have to register as a sex offender.

RICE's arrest is the result of an investigation by the New York State Police, with the assistance of the United States Secret Service, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Fletcher, who can be reached at 448-0672. The prosecution by the United States Attorney's Office is part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafchildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafchildhood.gov).